

ABSOLUTE RATING: Below Average
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Unsatisfactory

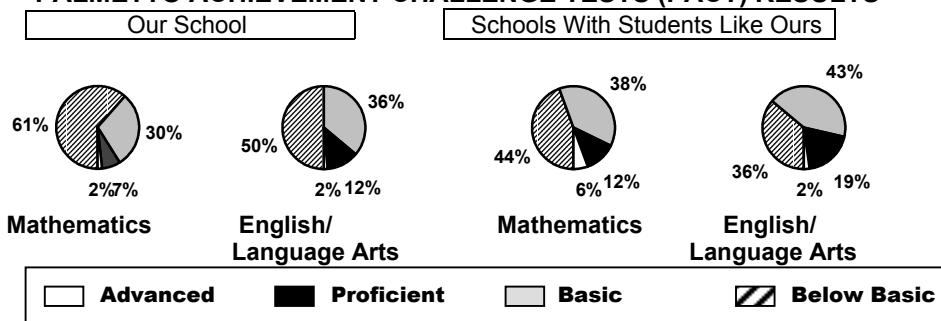
Number of middle schools with students similar to ours: 44. The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to good. For the improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to average.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on 2004 School Report Cards. Social studies scores are to be reported on 2005 School Report Cards.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT

Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=876)	50.1%	38.6%	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=80)	6.3%	3.7%		
Students without disabilities (n=779)	55.7%	43.1%		
Gender				
Male (n=406)	46.1%	37.7%		
Female (n=453)	55.6%	40.8%		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=490)	39.6%	27.1%		
Hispanic (n=5)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=362)	66.6%	55.5%		
Other (n=2)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=461)	40.3%	28.4%		
Pay for lunch (n=397)	63.7%	52%		

SCHOOL PROFILE INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Middle School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$4,660	N/A	\$5,088	\$5,127
• Prime instructional time	88.8%	Up from 86.3%	89.6%	89.6%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.1 to 1	N/A	20.6 to 1	21.4 to 1
STUDENTS (n=1,002)				
• Attendance rate	94.6%	Up from 93.4%	95.4%	95.7%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	0.1%	N/A	5.2%	4.5%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	0.1%	N/A	4.9%	4.0%
• Retention rate	4.7%	Down from 9%	3.6%	4.5%
TEACHERS (n=63)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	5 Days	Down from 10.2	7.9 Days	8.0 Days
• Attendance Rate	95.8%	Up from 95.6%	95.3%	95.2%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	42.9%	Down from 48.3%	42.8%	45.8%
• Continuing contract teachers	69.8%	Down from 75.4%	77.8%	80.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	1.6%	No change	2.8%	2.4%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	80.7%	Down from 82.7%	83.3%	83.7%
• Average teacher salary	\$36,627	Up 2.6%	\$37,018	\$37,455

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Middle School
SCHOOL				
• Dropout rate	0.5%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	67.5%	N/A	62.3%	61.5%
• Principal's years at the school	7	N/A	4	3.0
• Parents attending conferences	73.7%	N/A	85.2%	78.2%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	57.8%	Up from 54%	53.1%	45.8%
• On academic probation	45.6%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	8.9%	Down from 10.9%	5.7%	4.5%
• Suspended or expelled	295	N/A	17	15
• Enrolled in high school credit courses	6.9%	N/A	12.7%	13.2%
• Gifted and talented	3.6%	Down from 4%	12.3%	12.1%
• With disabilities other than speech	13.3%	Up from 12%	15.3%	13.6%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Chester Middle School serves students who live in the county seat of Chester County. Students and teachers moved into the nearly completed Chester Middle School in August of 1998. Chester Middle School became a combination of two schools previously housed in ill-maintained buildings and run-down neighborhoods. Now a true middle school which houses 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, Chester Middle school has an enrollment of 1001 with the capacity to serve 1200 students. The school has 999 seat auditorium, 500 seat gymnasium, six special service classrooms. Elective classes of Drama, Band, and Chorus each have a large acoustically designed classroom with entrance doors onto the stage area of the auditorium. 40 regular classrooms accommodate 8 teaching teams of 6 teachers each. Science classrooms are designed for experiments and hands-on lab work with adequate storage space provided in each. Two classrooms are also available for the gifted and talented program and one for Internal Suspension. The cafeteria area is a glass-walled galley area with access to an internal courtyard.

Based on our school needs and the SIC plan, the following actions have been initiated: Hired one additional counselor, provided daily academic assistance for students who scored below standard on PACT, hired four additional math teachers to allow for block scheduling of math and language arts, increased parent participation, and adjusted the master schedule to allow for additional exploratory courses

Because of these changes, CMS realized a reduction in discipline issues and expulsions. Additionally, Chester Middle students had substantial increases in all areas in PACT.

Chester Middle School has seen a 0.4% increase in the number of students, and reduced lunch percentage has increased significantly. In 2000-2001, 65% of the students received free lunch and 13% qualified for reduced lunch.

Analysis of the student enrollment forms indicates that 46% of the students live with two parents 46% live with a single parent, and 8% live with court-appointed guardians.

Chester Middle implemented many new programs during the 2000-2001 school year. Because of these programs, we saw an increase in student attendance, a large increase in parent participation, a decrease in discipline referrals, and we anticipate another year of strong gains on the PACT test.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	N/A	N/A	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	N/A	
Satisfied with home-school relations	N/A	N/A	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

1201004

Chester Middle
1014 McCandless Road
Chester, SC 29706

Grades 6-8 Middle School

Enrollment: 1,002 Students

Principal

Mr. Douglas Harrison 803-377-8192

Superintendent

Barry E. Campbell 803-385-6122

Board Chair

Denise C. Lawson 803-581-6224



THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Unsatisfactory



South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com